

Prendergast led in an inspiring and intelligent manner which will not be forgotten. I enjoyed my time working with General Prendergast—a man I am proud to call my friend. His presence will be missed, but a new chapter of his life lies ahead, and I wish him well as that chapter unfolds.●

#### CONGRATULATING TIM TURNER

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a fine Iowan and American. Tim Turner, formerly of Iowa, has been selected for his photographic skills to represent the United States in the First International Culinary Competition. This competition brings together professional culinary photographers from around the globe to bring to life the elements of wine and food in unique settings. The artists will be judged by professional chefs, members of the press, and the general public.

Mr. Turner began his interest in photography while at Heelen High School in Sioux City, IA, and pursued it further at the University of Iowa and the Brooks Institute of Photography. By combining his passion for cuisine with his keen eye for photography he has received major recognition for his work. His photographs have appeared in over 40 cookbooks and he has been nominated three times for the prestigious Beard Award and received a Beard Award for best food photography in a cookbook.

Commenting about his photograph selected for the competition, Turner stated:

The human touch is vital to the authenticity of the food we eat, the wines we drink and the heirlooms we treasure. These are the connections to the heart and soul of mankind. This photograph, uses a patchwork (quilt) as a metaphor for the connection between food and wine, all are united by tradition, in methods, techniques, knowledge and cultural influences, passed through the generations. The patchwork (quilt), sewn for the occasion, was created from scraps of old fabric, clothes and my photographs reproduced on fabric. Set in a timeless space, the chair invites the viewer to explore and enjoy.

The competition is being organized by the Beaujolais winemaking region of France and competitors from 12 countries including Denmark, Sweden, Japan, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Norway, Finland, Great Britain, and France are displaying their artistic photographs.

I want to encourage my colleagues to log on to the website at <http://lauriers.beaujolais.com/en> to learn more about the competition and to vote for the United States contestant Tim Turner. The winner will be decided on February 1, 2005. I ask that you please join me in supporting Mr. Turner.●

#### CECELIA FIRE THUNDER

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to publicly recognize Cecelia Fire Thunder, the newly elected presi-

dent of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. Ms. Fire Thunder is the first woman ever to hold this distinguished position.

Located on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwest South Dakota and comprised of about 16,000 residents, the Oglala Sioux Tribe elected Ms. Fire Thunder over Russell Means by a margin of 648 votes. Traditionally, the Oglala Sioux Tribe has only been led by male presidents or leaders. Those leaders include historic figures such as Crazy Horse and Red Cloud.

Ms. Fire Thunder's election is truly a momentous occasion, but this accomplishment is not the first example of her selfless dedication to serving her community. Ms. Fire Thunder has devoted much of her energy to enriching the lives of those around her, and now she will take on an even larger role in her tribe. Her altruistic vision for her people is unmatched.

Ms. Fire Thunder was born on the Pine Ridge Reservation but moved to California as a young child. Upon her return to the reservation 24 years later, she attended nursing school and became active in an effort to provide free health care to people unable to afford it themselves. Fire Thunder's background includes her work at a hospital, for the tribe itself, for state government, and as a private consultant. Most recently, she served as the education specialist for Cangleska, Inc., a domestic abuse education and prevention program on the reservation.

President-elect Fire Thunder was inaugurated today and I have faith that her hard work will be a catalyst for positive changes in her community. I congratulate Cecelia Fire Thunder on her election as the next president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe in southwest South Dakota. Ms. Fire Thunder is a shining example of perseverance and strength for her people, and for all South Dakota citizens. I have known Cecelia for some time and I sincerely look forward to working with her for many years to come.●

#### HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF STEPHEN MYERS

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to publicly thank Stephen R. Myers for his 32 years as chief investment officer of the South Dakota Investment Council. Mr. Myers has served with distinction as the state investment officer for the State of South Dakota since September 11, 1972. He will retire in January to spend more time with his wife, Mary Lynn.

The South Dakota Legislature created the investment council in 1971 to manage seven funds, including assets from the State's retirement system and the proceeds from tobacco lawsuit damages. Mr. Myers invested \$65 million during the first year of the council's existence and had immediate success. In more than three decades the fund has returned an average of 11.2 percent annually, while the capital markets benchmark is only a 10.5-per-

cent annual return. The assets have grown to over \$7.2 billion, with returns putting the funds in the top 1 percent of the Nation's pension funds. The returns from the SDIC's investments allow over 65,000 South Dakotans to retire with financial dignity.

Mr. Myers is a man of passion and integrity who takes his responsibility to retiring South Dakotans very seriously. As he himself has stated, "When you're managing other people's money, it simply won't do to have 99 percent integrity." Mr. Myers is also humble and quick to give credit to his co-workers and members of the South Dakota State Government for their roles in the SDIC's success.

In addition to his role as chief investment officer of the South Dakota Investment Council, Stephen is a co-founder and past president of the South Dakota Investment Society and co-founder and executive committee member of the National Association of State Investment Officers. He also received the National Association of State Investment Officers' Stoddard Award for his significant contribution to the State's public pensions funds.

After growing up in Pierre, Mr. Myers attended the University of South Dakota, where he met his future bride. His dedication to and love of the State of South Dakota is evident and has led to investments that have positively impacted every South Dakotan, either directly or indirectly. The State will miss his leadership, and it is with honor that I share his accomplishments with my colleagues.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the President Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

#### ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 29, 2004, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution: